



State of
North Dakota
Office of the Governor

John Hoeven
Governor

PROCLAMATION
**60th ANNIVERSARY OF THE USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT
RURAL UTILITIES SERVICE**
DECEMBER 7, 2009

WHEREAS, USDA Rural Development is celebrating the 60th anniversary of the Rural Utilities Service telecommunications loan and grant programs; and


WHEREAS, Rural Utilities Service's telecommunications loan program was established to continue the successful delivery of new technology to rural America; and

WHEREAS, Rural Utilities Service's telephone loan program impacted the lives of millions of rural families and businesses by providing connectivity, access to emergency service and business activities that fueled economic growth; and

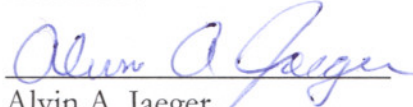
WHEREAS, for 60 years, the Rural Utilities Service has provided funding for telecommunications expansion and adoption, advancing communities from operator-assisted party line calls to next generation fixed and mobile broadband services; and

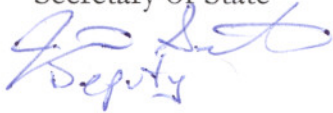
WHEREAS, in recent years, the Rural Utilities Service has provided loans and grants to support deployment of technologies, equipment and infrastructure for distance learning, telemedicine and community-based broadband, and is currently working to deploy universal broadband access through rural America.

NOW, THEREFORE, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby recognize the 60th anniversary of the **USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT RURAL UTILITIES SERVICE** in the state of North Dakota.


John Hoeven
Governor

ATTEST:


Alvin A. Jaeger
Secretary of State


Deputy

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